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Explorer De Transche

SUMMIT, N. J., Dec. 29 (AP) Nicholas Alexander de Transche, 74, an arctic explorer, died Tuesday at Overlook Hospital.

Mr. dc Transche, a former commander in the Imperial Russian Navy who came to this country in 1923, maintained homes in New York City and Dresden, Mc.

He was a pioneer in the development of naval equipment and radio communication. He was with the American Geographical Society from 1923 to 1928 and established a special branch on arctic exploration.

During that time, Mr. de Transche and explorer Bernt Balchen charted the course for Adm. Richard E. Byrd's first transpolar flight.

During World War II, he served with the Army in Brooklyn and was in charge of converting peacetime ships to wartime duty. After the war he served with the Central Intelligence Agency as an expert on